

and

the frame includes fewer cooling pins than there are holders on the end-of-arm tool;

B/ whereby, in use, only selected ones of the molded articles in respective holders are cooled by aligned insertion of a tip of a cooling pin into each selected one of the molded articles.

175. Apparatus according to Claim 167, wherein the cooling pin is arranged to provide a vacuum function at a time after termination of the forcing of the gaseous cooling fluid along the internal channel of the cooling pin, the vacuum function causing the preform to be held on the pin to support extraction of the preform from the holder.

REMARKS

Consideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 99-175 are pending the application. Claims 99, 106, 114, 123, and 167 are independent.

Applicants have added new Claims 167-175 to afford themselves a scope of protection corresponding to the allowed claims of the corresponding EPO application. Applicants respectfully submit that the newly-added claims are fully

supported in the specification and drawings, and are allowable for substantially the same reasons that Claims 99-166 are allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard P. Bauer", is written over a horizontal line.

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